

COMBERTON CONTACT FEBRUARY 2022

Comberton Annual Pancake Race



**Tuesday 15th Feb 10.30am
at the Village Hall**

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Age Concern Cambridge Information & Advice Line	01354 696677
Apple Tree Dentist 1-3 West Street, Comberton	262838
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Baptist Church Church Office	264707
Benefits Agency Chesterton Road, Cambridge	545200
Comberton Catholics (Fr John Minh)	832397
Comberton Library	0345 045 5225
Comberton Playgroup	262373
Comberton Village College	262503
Adult Education	264721
Cambridge Water	706050
Emergencies	403000
Sewerage Emergencies	0845 7145145
Environmental Health Services (South Cambs)	03450 450500
Meridian Primary School	262423
Nursery Way Sheltered Housing	264434
Parkside Police Station	01480 456111
Samaritans	364455
Social Services	264466
(emergency out-of-hours)	01733 561370
St Mary's Church (Vicar David Newton)	665654
Street Light Failure reporting helpline	01954 233330
Village Help Scheme (Chairman Barbara Mitton),	262073
See panel on page 5 for transport bookings	
Wood Green Animal Shelter	01480 830014
Stray dogs (South Cambs DC)	443000

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Regular dates for your diary

If you are restarting regular events please contact the editor with the information below.

Day	Time	What	Where
Monday	Morning	Monday Studio	VH
Monday	9.45am - 11am	Comberton Walkers	BC
Monday	4pm - 6pm	Carpet Bowls	VH
Monday	6pm - 7pm	Tang Soo Do Junior 6-11	MS
Monday	7pm - 9pm	Tang Soo Do	MS
Wednesday	10am - 11:30am	Comberton Baby & Toddler Group	VH
Wednesday	6.45pm-7.45pm	U15 Football Club	CVC
Wednesday	7pm - 9pm	Tang Soo Do	MS
Thursday	5.45pm-6.45pm	U8 Football Club	CVC

VH = Village Hall

CVC = Comberton Village College

BC = Baptist Church

MS = Meridian School

REC = Recreation Ground Car Park

Comberton Contact Team

Editor and Designer

James Gilbert

07768 421049

editor@combertoncontact.org.uk

50 South Street, CB23 7DZ

Treasurer and Advertising

Terry Coad

01223 263264

treasurer@combertoncontact.org.uk

38 Westlands

Distribution

Marian Dymott

01223 263292

Please supply copy via email in a plain text format and images in jpg, png or pdf with 300 dpi. Please send any submissions for the March magazine by 15th February 2022. Submissions will only be acknowledged if requested and this may take up to a week.

Parish Council

For those of you who eagerly follow the Parish Council meetings, you will now know we are back to in person meetings and we are meeting at the village hall on on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, to discuss topics that affect our village, the facilities and services that our village offers.

We welcome public attendance and the agendas and minutes can be found at <http://parish-council.comberton.org/decisions/meetings/>

Wheelie Bin Collection Dates

Wednesday 2 nd February	Black
Wednesday 9 th February	Blue & Green
Wednesday 16 th February	Black
Wednesday 23 rd February	Blue
Wednesday 2 nd March	Black



Village Help Scheme - Volunteer Drivers Schedule

To book transport please see the dates below and call the appropriate number.

31 January 2022	Barbara Mitton	01223 262073
07 February 2022	Angela Donnelly	01223 263283
14 February 2022	Angela Donnelly	01223 263283
21 February 2022	Gill Redman	01223 262246
28 February 2022	Gill Redman	01223 262246
07 March 2022	Joan Wells	01223 262746

More drivers are **URGENTLY** needed for this essential service.

For more information please contact Mrs Gill Redman on 01223 262246

Advertising rates for Comberton Contact

	Size (w x h)	Annual	Single Edition
Whole page	122mm x 183mm	£400	£44
3/5 page	122mm x 109mm	£240	£27
2/5 page	122mm x 72mm	£160	£18
1/5 page	122mm x 35mm	£80	£9
1/5 page	60mm x 72mm	£80	£9
1/10 page	60mm x 35mm	£50	£6

From the Editor

With the easing of restrictions it is easy to be lulled into thinking that the pandemic is over, but we probably know from our own experience that the consequences will be with us for a long time.

I was reminded of this recently when I went to collect a prescription from Comberton Surgery; I normally use the dispensing machine but after two weeks waiting for a text I was about to run out of tablets. I queued for over two hours, and learned from other people that some had waited for over three hours the previous week. The dispensary is struggling with two common pandemic challenges - staff shortages and extremely high demand. Whilst a long wait is frustrating please do not take it out on the staff - they are doing their best and it is not their fault that there might be a long wait.

To end on a more positive note, I am writing this on a lovely bright sunny morning; it might be cold but the days are getting longer and spring is just around the corner.

James Gilbert 07768 421049 editor@combertoncontact.org.uk

Comberton Village Website

Regular updates are available at www.comberton.org

Local Government Contacts

Parish Council Chair	Mr Hywel Griffiths 01223 263390 18 Barrons Way, CB23 7EQ
----------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------

Parish Council Clerk	Angela Bridges 07735 908030 parishclerk@comberton.org
----------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

District Councillors	Ian Sollom 07722 065475 Cllr.Sollom@scambs.gov.uk
----------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

	Tony Mason 07432 779551 Cllr.Mason@scambs.gov.uk
--	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

County Councillor	Michael Atkins 07968 264637 matkinslibdem@gmail.com
-------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

The Parish Church of St Mary, Comberton



In the Lordsbridge Team Ministry



Special Services and Activities

13th February at 3pm – **Wild Church** (outside)

Regular Services in St Mary's Church Building

13th & 27th February at 8.00 am – **BCP Holy Communion**



6th February at 9.30am – **Morning Worship**

13th February at 9.30am – **Holy Communion**

20th February at 9.30am – **Informal Morning Worship**

27th February at 9.30am – **Holy Communion**

On-line Services



We hold our weekly on-line Zoom services at 11am each Sunday. These feature a time of prayer, scriptural reading and reflection and last 30–40 minutes. If you would like to be part of this new way of worshipping, please join us using one of the following ways:

Use this link : <https://zoom.us/j/82311473640>

Or, you can go straight to the zoom website and simply put the meeting ID **823 1147 3640** in the 'join meeting' box.



Quiet Prayer

Our church building is open daily for quiet prayer.



Find us on Facebook:
St Mary's Church, Comberton

http://



www.stmaryscomberton.org

On-line Giving

We can now accept on-line donations;
please see our website for more information.

Vicar: The Rev'd David Newton
01223 665654
davidnewton@lordsbridge.org

Churchwardens:

Michael Edwards, 01223 262748, michael@kentings.co.uk
Teresa Taylor, 07717 001429, ptc.taylor@btinternet.com

Curate: The Rev'd Chris Westgarth
chris.westgarth1@btinternet.com
Tel: 01223 263242

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Comberton Pond Working Group

National Lottery Funding

We are delighted to announce that we have received £10,000 from the National Lottery Community Fund, which will enable us to carry out the pond renovations to a high specification.

Environmental Survey

A survey was carried out by Greenlight Environmental Consultancy in December and their conclusions were as follows:

“As the site offers limited aquatic habitats, the proposed plans to reline the existing pond are considered beneficial and will provide more stable aquatic habitats. The pond will be less prone to fluctuation in water levels, and once established this will increase nesting and foraging habitat for a range of species.”

To ensure there is no impact on wildlife they suggested works should take place outside the breeding season i.e. before March and after August.

Works to start before end February

Works on the pond are planned to start before the end of February. Fen Group Ltd, who are experienced in pond renovation, have been appointed to carry out the work, which is likely to last a week, during which Green End pathway to the west will not be accessible. Traffic measures will be put in place to ensure safety at all times.

Thanks to all those who have contacted the Pond Working group regarding the inflow and outflow pipes beside the houses in Green End. It has been very helpful in our continuing investigations and still remains somewhat of a mystery!



Message from Treasurer

I have been asked by our printers to offer their apologies to readers and advertisers for some printing issues in the last edition of Contact (December 2021) which meant that several images (particularly some adverts) were very light and therefore difficult to read. They have assured us that they will implement additional checks for future issues so that the problem does not occur again.

Modern Foreign Language Tuition

My name is Amanda, and I am a modern foreign languages teacher specialising in French and Spanish. I have taught children from primary school through GCSEs, as well as conversationally with adults.

I have spent my career working on a face-to-face basis, however, as a result of the last 18 months, zoom has become my primary way of offering to tutor, on a half-hour or hourly basis.

A bit more about me? I am a frequent traveller to Spain, and grew up in and out of the country, therefore learning the language at an early age. Spanish was the first foreign language I learnt, however upon doing so discovered a natural talent and interest in languages, and took up French too. I have been speaking them both all my life.

How qualified am I? I have experience with all curriculums and know every different examining board like the back of my hand, so if it's your child keen to learn, rest assured that the tutoring they receive will be fully aligned with their school curriculum.

And if it's not my child? If it's adult lessons you're interested in, it becomes a lot more informal. Our tutoring will be more conversational, focusing on colloquial phrases and localised sayings, being more beneficial for those wanting to speak the language in the country, rather than passing an exam.

What are your costs? I charge £20 for an hours lesson up to GCSE, anything above including adults will be £25. All new students will benefit from a free introductory session to determine whether my tutoring will benefit you.

Do you have references? Yes! 10+ of experience comes with a lot. Be sure to head to my website www.bishoplanguages.co.uk where you'll be able to find all of them

or contact me on 0790 380 6750:

Comberton Allotments & Gardens Association

DATES FOR YOUR 2022 DIARY

Once again we enter another year hopeful that we can complete our full list of events; 2020 was a total washout but we did manage a reasonably successful programme in 2021. Initially the Plant Sale was lost to lockdown but the Summer BBQ was held in July, albeit with restricted numbers, and the hastily arranged Autumn Show in September was a success thanks to your support,.

Our first event of the new season will be the Spring Plant Sale in May where we hope to sell you lots of fine plants to nurture and perhaps to exhibit the results in the Autumn Show.

Our full diary is set out below (*some dates are provisional as we have not yet booked all the venues*): -

Spring Plant Sale – Saturday 14th May 10.00 am - Playschool

Summer Barbecue – Saturday 9th July 6.00pm – Long Road Allotments

Autumn Show – Saturday 17th September - Meridian School

Annual General Meeting –Wednesday 23rd November 7.30pm – Village Hall

Best Kept Allotment – In keeping with our policy the award alternates between the two allotment sites, so the trophy this year will be awarded to the Best Kept Allotment on the South Street patch.

Allotment Availability – The allotments on the Long Road site are now fully let for the 2021/22 season, but we do hold a waiting list if you wish to rent a plot in the future.

Robin Worship; CAGA Secretary (robin.worship7@gmail.com)



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Comberton Baptist Church

6th February | 4pm | www.c-b-c.org.uk

Comberton Ramblers

Join our friendly group for wonderful walks

Comberton Ramblers walk alternative Sundays between 5-7 miles. We are a friendly / informative group and enjoy exploring the varied countryside in this area.

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New walkers are very welcome to join us with up to 2 free walks, and if you enjoy our walks we request that you become a member. Annual membership fee is £10.00 per person.

Our 2022 walk programme started on the 9th January 2022.

<https://www.combertonramblers.org.uk>

For further information please contact Stella the Secretary.

Email. stella.hardwicke2274@hotmail.com

Tel 01954 210049



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February Challenge

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MIXED DOUBLES (A very difficult game!)

The listed anagrams when unscrambled are all famous couples. The letters in brackets represent clues to the category each fall into e.g. CF =Comedians in Films. Full list of categories is:-

(C)comedians,(F)films,(M)music hall, (B) biblical, (L)legend, (R)royalty, (S)Shakespeare, (A)American and (T)television. Please note that the AND which appears between each pair is not included nor required, merely the two names. The numbers are a further clue, being the number of letters in each individual name.

RAY LURED HAL	CFA	6.5.....?
WE CAME... BORIS & ME	CT	9.4.....?
BEST COBALT TOOL	CFA	6.8.....?
LE TALL TIGER	CT	6.5.....?
A VERTICAL ORBIT	R	8.6.....?
RETRIEVERS MEMO	TC	6.8.....?
T DANCE	TC	3.3.....?
UNHARNESSED RFC	CT	6.8.....?
IS ALL HANDSOME	B	6.7.....?
SEOUL MURMURS	L	7.5.....?
CHAPTER A LA TONY? NO!	S	7.9.....?
IE MOT LE JOUR	S	5.6.....?
ARSONIST LED IT	L	7.6.....?
AXOLOTLIS UPCR	L	6.6.....?

Entries please to Costcutter no later than 14th February. The prize of wine and chocolates generously provided by the store will be awarded to the first correct solution out of the hat.

Please include your name and address with your entry.

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Greetings Neighbours,

Happy New Year to you all, we hope that you have all had a good start to 2022.

You may have seen children around the village on bikes in January – the children were participating in the Bikeability scheme. The scheme works to enable more children and young people to cycle safely and also to develop a lifelong love of cycling.

We will be looking forward to our 'talent show' this half term. This always proves to be an important event on our calendar and last year this was virtual. This year we will be having live performances for the children to share their talents in front of their mixed year groups.

In March, we will be having a special 'Art' week. If you are a local artist or you have any art pieces you would like to share with our children, please do make contact with the school office.

Thank you for supporting out on going Habitat and Wellbeing garden project. Our JustGiving page is <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/meridianpta> This has been driven by our School Councillors and we are hoping to have it shaped by Easter this year. If you can help to clear, paint or generally lend a hand, we would love to hear from you.

We are looking to appoint a Caretaker/handy person for mornings only, 6:45-11am. For more information on the role and how to apply, please visit our school website www.meridianprimary.co.uk or contact the school office on 01223 262423.

Kind regards,

Mrs C. Etchie
Headteacher

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E D G E

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Newbie Beekeeper

When we moved to the village 2 years ago I was able to realise an ambition – I started beekeeping. I started by attending the fabulous beekeeping course run over the winter by the Cambridgeshire Beekeepers' Association (CBKA) which covers all the basics. My father is a beekeeper and turned up with a hive in the car transported from Cheshire and I was now responsible for the husbandry of a colony of about 50,000 bees.

My learning curve was steep as COVID lockdown hit at the main time of year when bees are prone to swarming. The pandemic meant that we had started having a shared cup of tea over the fence with our neighbours and during one brew up we heard a distant hum which turned out to be a bivouac of bees clustered on a branch in our garden. I had heard what to do if you want to rehouse a swarm but I now needed to do it for real. I phoned one of the course tutors who gave me the confidence to don my bee suit. I found my secateurs and cut the branch the bees had settled on. The swarm then dropped into the box I had left below. Yippee job done and I felt like a proper apiculturist. The following morning I was knocked back as the swarm had up and left again.

Two years later I am aware that it is a steep learning curve and the bees know best!

Are you a Comberton beekeeper? The CBKA has a series of meet-ups in local pubs. I am hosting a meeting on Tuesday 22nd March at The Three Horseshoes in Comberton. It will be a chance to share stories and seek advice. If you are interested in joining please email me at ruthcolenso@gmail.com



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Flooding – be prepared and know what to do

Many residents across Cambridgeshire will remember the wet weather we experienced during the Christmas period and the weeks that followed last year.

Whether the cause is excess surface water, blocked ditches and drains or rivers overflowing, flooding is very upsetting and could happen to anyone.

There are a number of organisations who have responsibility for managing flood risk in Cambridgeshire and each of these organisations work hard to invest in flood management maintenance and infrastructure that will provide the most benefit to communities affected by flooding. We can't stop flooding, but we work to limit the impact.

And as residents and business owners, you have an important role to play. Being prepared and knowing what to do if your home or business floods is vital. Here are some top tips:

- Check if your property is in danger of being flooded by visiting <https://www.gov.uk/check-flooding>
- Register with Environment Agency Flood Warnings Direct service by visiting <https://www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings> or call Floodline on 0345 988 1188
- If you're in a flood risk area, find out about insurance <https://www.floodre.co.uk/> and how to reduce your premiums <https://www.floodre.co.uk/flood-resources/>
- Buy or make your own sandbags. A quick internet search will list stockists or show how to make them. Do not rely on being given them by the local authority as many do not keep a supply to hand out.
- Have a plan for what you will do if your home floods – there's some great advice here <https://check-for-flooding.service.gov.uk/plan-ahead-for-flooding>
- Move people, pets and valuables to a safer place (for example, upstairs). Be cautious, the flood water may be hiding hidden hazards underneath and cause furniture to be unstable.

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- Know how to isolate the electrics in your home and turn the gas off should you need to.
- Keep your insurance documents somewhere safe and handy. Make a checklist of what you need to remember to pack should you need to leave your home in a hurry – things like medication or provisions for young children and babies.
- If your neighbour or elderly/vulnerable relative lives in a flood risk area, make sure they know what to do and who to contact.
- In a life risk situation, always dial 999.

For more information: Prepare for flooding (cambsfire.gov.uk)



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Rowan wants you to do something incredible!



Cambridge-based arts charity Rowan challenges you to take on a bucket-list experience to raise money for its student artists.

The charity, which provides creative workshops and a forest school for adults with learning disabilities, is looking for volunteers to take part in a tandem skydive on 30 April.

Following a short pre-jump briefing, adventurous participants will board an aircraft at Peterborough Airfield, climbing to around 13,000 feet. Accompanied by highly experienced instructors, divers will exit the plane and enjoy the thrill of freefall before the parachute opens and they are brought safely to earth while experiencing breath-taking views.

Mirka Anderson completed a skydive for the charity in 2010. "I did the skydive for Rowan because it is an amazing creative hub for adults with learning disabilities," she said. "My daughter Emma, who is 37 and has Down's Syndrome, has been attending Rowan for the past 12 years and her progress both socially and artistically has been enormous. Her confidence has rocketed, her communication skills are effective, and her sense of humour is bringing smiles to all she encounters every day!"

"Everyone who knows Rowan knows that it is a charity that stays in your heart," said Fundraising Engagement Manager Rose Bloomfield. "We want to hear from all the daredevils out there who are brave enough to jump out of plane to raise all-important funds!"

Those taking up Rowan fundraising places are asked to raise a minimum of £395 through sponsorship. All money will go directly towards the day-to-day running costs of Rowan, where the arts are used as a tool to tackle social exclusion and improve the well-being of students.

To find out more about skydiving for Rowan, please contact Rowan on 01223 566027 or email rose@rowanhumberstone.co.uk



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1. What country did Paddington Bear come from ?

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2. What is Paddington's favourite food ?

MARMALADE

3. What is the name of the SHEEP-PIG

BABE

4. Who the main characters in the Faraway tree ?

JOE BETH FRANNIE

5. What did Princess Smarty Pants ride ?

A MOTOR BIKE

6. What animals does the mouse meet in the wood?

FOX OWL SNAKE

7. What do the letters BFG stand for ?

BIG FRIENDLY GIANT

8. What is the the name of the headmistress in Matilda?

AGATHA TRUNCHBULL

9. Who is Winnie the Pooh's owner ?

CHRISTOPHER ROBIN

10. What did the Grinch steal ?

CHRISTMAS

11. Who is Peppa pig's boyfriend ?

PEDRO PONY

12. Who is the main character in Where The Wild Things Are?

MAX

The winner is Silas Brown of Hillfield Road.



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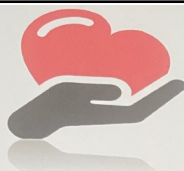
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If you have already decided to leave a gift in your Will, thank you; we would love to hear from you, so please get in touch. To find out more and write your Will visit arhc.org.uk/iWill or contact Rachael, Future Gifts Officer at r.brown@arhc.org.uk or 01223 675881.

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Session	Residents		Groups*		Community Commercial	
	Comberton Residents	Non-Residents	Affiliated	Non-Affiliated	Local or Non-Franchised	Non-Local or Franchised
	Main Hall		Main Hall		Main Hall	
Daytime	£15	£25	£12.50	£22.50	£30	£35
Weekday eve.	£30	£40	£12.50	£22.50	£30	£40
Weekend eve.	£60	£70	£12.50	£22.50	On Application	On Application
	Meeting Room or Community Room		Meeting Room or Community Room		Meeting Room or Community Room	
All sessions	£10	£15	£10	£15	£20	£20

Unless otherwise stated, charges are per session. Sessions are 9am to 1pm, 2pm to 5:30pm and 6pm to 10:30pm (midnight on Fri/Sat/Sun).

A refundable deposit of £50 is required at the time of booking.

Prices for commercial lettings and weddings are available on request.

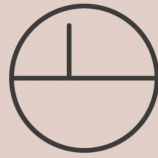
*Additional information for groups:

- Affiliated Community groups holding evening group social or fundraising events will be charged the residents evening rates. Non-affiliated groups holding similar events will be charged the non-residents evening rates.
- Groups working with children and/or vulnerable adults will need to have child protection and vulnerable adult policies & procedures in place.
- Annual affiliation fee of £10 is due on 1st January.

More information, including hall availability, can be found at www.combertonvillagehall.org

To make a booking contact the Lettings Secretary, Suki Williams, at combertonvillagehall@gmail.com or on 07989 066993.

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